

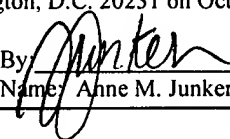
S/N 09/228,921

PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant:	WAGNER ET AL.	Examiner:	E. NICHOLSON
Serial No.:	09/228,921	Group Art Unit:	3627
Filed:	JANUARY 11, 1999	Docket No.:	758.748US11
Title:	U-BOLT CLAMP FOR SEALING LAP JOINTS		

CERTIFICATE UNDER 37 CFR 1.8: The undersigned hereby certifies that this correspondence is being deposited in the United States Postal Service, as first class mail, with sufficient postage, in an envelope addressed to: Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Washington, D.C. 20231 on October 30, 2000.

By 
Name Anne M. Junkers

RESPONSE TO RESTRICTION REQUIREMENT

RECEIVED

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TO 3600 MAIL ROOM

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Dear Sir:

In the Office Action dated September 8, 2000, the Examiner required restriction to one of the following species:

- Species 1: shown by Figs. 1-6;
- Species 2: shown by Figs. 7-10;
- Species 3: shown by Figs. 11 and 12;
- Species 4: shown by Figs. 13-16; and
- Species 5: shown by Figs. 17-24.

Applicants elect Species 5 with traverse. By the Preliminary Amendment submitted herewith, all independent claims of the above-identified patent application have been amended to be identical to the allowed claims of the parent application. The independent claims are generic to all of the embodiments disclosed in the application, and are in condition for immediate allowance based on the previous examination in the parent application. Therefore, it is submitted that the dependent claims directed to the non-elected embodiments are entitled to remain in the pending application.

If a telephone interview would be helpful in resolving any outstanding issues relating to the present case, the Examiner is respectfully requested to call the undersigned attorney at 612.336.4617.



Dated: _____

10/30/00

Respectfully submitted,

MERCHANT & GOULD P.C.
P.O. Box 2903
Minneapolis, Minnesota 55402-0903
612.332.5300

Signed: _____

Name: David G. Schmaltz
Reg. No.: 39,828
DGS/amj